

Edited

A Funny Man (Dirch)

Denmark /2011/109 mins/Danish/Colour/35mm

Director **Martin Pieter Zandvliet**
DOP Jesper Tøffner
Editor Per Sandholt
Music Jeppe Kaas, Sune Martin
Designer Peter Grant, Charlotte Bay Garnov
Cast Nikolaj Lie Kaas, Lars Ranthe

Synopsis

Opening in the seductive style of the sixties, *A Funny Man* uncovers the perennial loneliness that comedian Dirch Passer (Nikolaj Lie Kaas) has found himself in after a fast-tracked rise to fame. He struggles between his own desire to gain critical respect and servicing the audience's needs. Costing his kindred friendship to on-stage partner Kjeld Petersen (Lars Ranthe) Dirch takes on Steinbeck's classic *Of Mice and Men*, only for the audience to break out in laughter at his first line. Dirch's Lennie becomes a running joke, and so has, Dirch believes, his own life.

About the director

Born in 1971, Denmark, Martin Pieter Zandvliet Completed a film course in editing at the European Film College in 1998. He has worked for Danish television and has edited a number of short films and documentaries. *Angels of Brooklyn* (2002), co-directed with Camilla Hjelm Knudsen, won a Danish Robert for Best Long Documentary and entered the Toronto Hot Docs and the Visions du Réel in Nyon.

Zandvliet made his first feature film with *Applause* (2009), with leading actress Paprika Steen winning awards in Karlovy Vary, Mumbai, Pune and Nashville. In his second feature *A Funny Man* (2011) Zandvliet teams up once again with writer Anders Frithiof August and producer Mikael Rieks.

Festival Participation/Awards

Toronto International Film Festival 2011

Production/Sales

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